

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

PO Box 6100

Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

Australia

Submission to the Inquiry into the Fair Work Amendment (Small Business-Penalty Rates Exemption) Bill 2012

I am a casual employee, working as a Cook/Chef, currently earning around per hour.

I am at present unemployed and being through terminal cancer in the past year and a half.

With work now and then I have managed up to now. I get no government help, my wifes income is not enough to live on and pay our mortgage. I have being accessing my super for extra money. Most of my working live I worked approx. 80 to 90 hours a week, into my super I got payed only the 38 odd hours a week. I belive I've been cheated by miserly behaviour and the law permitting it.

If penalty rates were abolished... We get payed that little in the catering, as well some people think it's nothing, every one can do it, they say my wife can cook (for example). I need the penalty rates to make a decent living.

My weekends are important to me because... Do you understand the sacrifice we make and how it affects us? We serve the customers but we aren't slaves!

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.

In advanced democratic countries one does not need the union to fight, as most disputes have been legally settled to the satisfaction of every one.

Submitted by

Dieter Huber

Friday 14th of September 2012